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JESSUP WATSON THOMAS passed away May 23, 1932. He was born at Heber, then known as Heber City, Wasatch County, Utah, on the 6th of October, 1878, a son of Jessup and Margaret (Watson) Thomas, the former of whom was born in England and the latter in Scotland, they having become pioneer settlers of the Heber City community of Utah, where the father gave his attention to the livestock industry. The subject of this review was a lad of about eight years when his parents died, the death of the father

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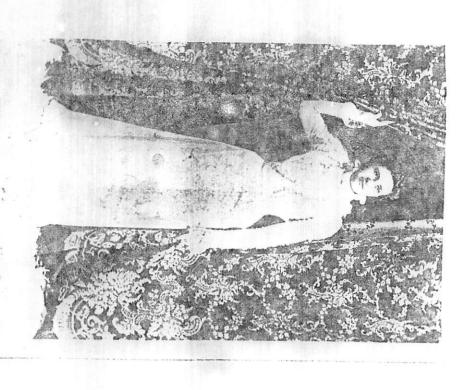
UTAH -Alter Vol

having been followed by that of the mother a few days later, and nine of their eleven children having survived them.

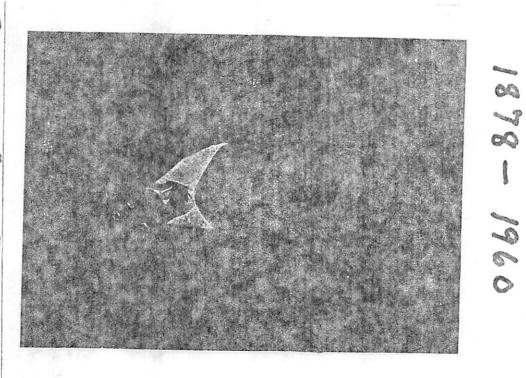
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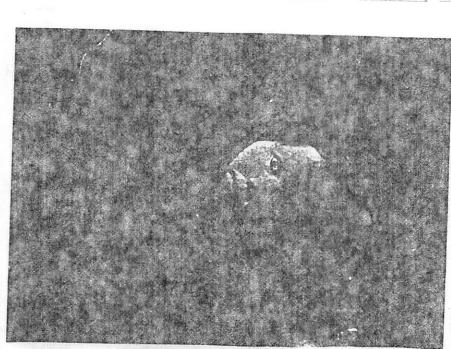
Eunice Sweet Lindsay
Married 26 October 1899



Jessup "Jep" THOMAS MARRIED 21 DACEMBER 1921

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(This is the 37th in a series of articles to appear in the Bulletin concerning the lives of old timers, the information gathered by personal interviews with these men who have lived close to nature. This story is written by the editor, as told to him by "Old Timer.")

JESSOP THOMAS

Jessop Thomas, the son of a pioneer family, was born in Heber City, Wasatch County, on October 6, Young Thomas was left an orphan at the age of seven; but coming from a large family of eleven, there were older brothers and sisters to take care of him. Even though the caring hands of older brothers and sisters kept the fires of family life burning, life was not easy. The economy of this family, like the communities of the western frontier of that time, was not stable. Settlers were just beginning to dig in by building homes, breaking up farm lands, constructing irrigation systems, and establishing the livestock industry which later was to become an important part in the life of Jessop Thomas.

Young Jessop was only exposed to an education, for it was a long hike each day to the school house located four miles from his home. Early spring and late fall work took him out of school as did very often the heavy snow of inclement winter days. So, for these reasons he received only an "inoculation" to schooling.

At the age of fourteen he was introduced to the work that he was to follow the rest of his life-he began to herd sheep. His first job, which was for George Coleman, took him into the area of Tooele. For two years he helped care for the Coleman flocks. Summer and

winter ranges were not far apart in those days, the summer range being in the vicinity of Grantsville where the lush desert grasses and shrubs furnished an abundance of food. The wintering grounds were not far distant.

After two years on the ranges with the Coleman flocks young Jessop joined John Austin and for twelve years stayed with the sheep the larger part of the year. The sheep were summered in the area that is known as Current Creek in Wasatch County and on the West Fork of the Duchesne River and trailed to the wintering grounds near Dugway and Keg Mountains in Western Utah. Some times they were wintered in the area east and south of Myton in Duchesne County. Thomas claims to have ridden all the ranges from the Green River west to Heber City and then into the desert ranges in the western part of the state.

When asked how he compared the forage on the ranges in the early days with that which we find today he said, "Well, I will tell you like I have told others. How does it look before and after you cut a hay field? Many times I snagged my horses on the branches of trees that had fallen under the thick growth. Often I had to take my pack horses and make trails through the heavy vegetation in Current Creek before I could get my sheep in their destination. There are a lot of whes and gulleys there now that were not there when I first began to rice are ranges. The reason for this of course, is that the vegetative cover is gone.

When asked what he attributed the

heavy use of the the ranges to he said, "Well, of course, we always did have too many sheep and too many cattle on the ranges, but also in the early days it seemed there were thousands of wild horses. Everywhere you went you would see big bands of them. The desert, as well as the mountain ranges, were covered with them. We even used to have trouble keeping our own livestock. There were stallions that had been beaten off by the leaders of other bands of wild horses, and they would come down to our herding grounds and steal our horses. One wild stallion owned by the Indians had to be killed because he coveted our band of horses and each night would come and round them up and drive them away. I have seen as many as twelve stallions in one band that had been driven out of the



JESSOP THOMAS

"Fifty-four years ago I pulled the first herd of sheep into what is known as Tabiona Flat. It was the most beautiful winter range I had ever looked at. White sage and grass grew as thick as it could grow and very high. That win-ter I had 3,800 head of sheep. Jim Clyde, Jim Murdock, Tom Crook, Tom Coleman, and John Austin followed me into that area.

"I saw 16,000 head of cattle in Strawberry Valley. They were the property of Nutter who ranged cattle all the way from this area to the Arizona strip. Among the 16,000 I remember there were 1,200 that were cut out that had

big jaw.
"The streams were filled with trout, but I never caught any of them. Although I have been on the range all my life, I have never killed a deer. About the only thing I ever destroyed were coyotes.

"Government regulations of the ranges have almost ruined the livestock men and will completely ruin them in the not too distant future. But I guess after looking back over the history of our ranges and what has happened, regulations had to come, and we will go broke anyway whether we are allowed to use the ranges as we see fit or not.

"I have known every forest ranger coming to this district and found them all to be real gentlemen and easy to get along with. I remember the first time I met Ed Adair. He came to my camp about noon and wanted to count my sheep. I told him we couldn't count them at that time of day and would have to wait until morning when we

(Continued on page 7)

OLD TIMER

(Continued from page 5)

would run them through a chute for him. So, Ed stayed all night. We had about 2,400 ewes and 3,000 rams in the flock. We started them through the chutes while Adair stood by counting them. Can you imagine counting 5,400 sheep? He counted and counted until what he was looking at looked just like a long string of white something passing before his eyes. He stepped back from the fence and said, 'Sheep, sheep, the G--- D---- sheep. How many does your permit call for?' I told him and he said, 'Well, that's just what you have.'"

This Old Timer, who is not as old as many we have talked to, has lived a hard rugged life. The dangers he encountered on the range were added to by some Indians and Mexicans who were hard to get along with. He related that once while he was sitting on the side of a hill tending his flocks, a Mexican herder came by and upon seeing his dog, jumped off his horse and began firing at it. Thomas said he raised up and after using a few well chosen expletives asked him why he was trying to shoot his dog. The Mexican replied, "Because I want to, and I am going to shoot you too." With this he whirled around and aimed his gun at Thomas, who yelled back and said, "What are you going to do shoot me and leave me up on this mountain without even a coat?" The Mexican brought his gun down, mounted his horse and rode off. The next day Thomas saw him in the corral of one of his con-temporaries. When Thomas walked in the corral and started walking toward him, the Mexican jumped on his horse and was never seen in that part of the country again.

Old Timer related that on another occasion an Indian known as Bridger Jim visited him at camp. "He was invited to dine, and when he left my best saddle horse disappeared. I went to the spot where I had him tethered and found the prints of Indian mocassins which strongly indicated that the Indian had ridden away with the horse. The next day I rode to his camp but no one was at the Indian camp save one Indian maiden. She spoke English fluently and stated that the Indian had not stolen my horse. The fact that I had not mentioned the horse being stolen to the

RECORD FOR GERMAN BROWN STILL STANDS

According to the Brown-Foreman's Fishing Almanac for 1953, world record weights of various fresh and salt water fishes reveals the fact that Utah never did hold the world championship for the largest brown. Many Utahns have claimed this for some time. The 37 lb. 4 oz. brown taken from the Logan River

a few years ago was a little smaller that the 39 lb. 8 oz. brown trout capture by Mr. W. Muir in Lach Awe, Scaland, in 1886, but Utah's big fish we close to the record.

Other interesting records are as follows:

(Compiled by Field & Stream)	LENGTH	GIRTH	ANGLER	WHERE		VHEN	
COMMON NAME BLACK BASS, largemouth	185. OZ. 22-4	32 1/2"		George W. Perry	Montgomery Lake, Ga.	June		15
BLACK BASS, Smallmouth		22 1/2"		Owen F. Smith	Wheeler Dom, Ala.	Oct.	8,	19
BLUEGILL SUNFISH	4-12	15"	181/4"	T. S. Hudson	Ketona Lake, Ala.	April	9,	19
CARP	55-5	42"	31"	Frank J. Lodwein	Clearwater Lake, Minn.	July	10,	15
CATFISH, Channel	55	50"	27"	Roy A. Groves	James River, So. Dak.	May	18,	19
MUSKELLUGE	69-11	631/2"	31 1/4 "	Louis Spray	Chippewa Flowage, Wis.	Oct.	20,	15
PERCH, Yellow	4-31/2			Dr. C. C. Abbot	Bordentown, N. J.	May		18
PICKEREL, Eastern Chain	9	30"	15"	Russell Kimble	Green Pond, N. J.	jan.	5,	15
PIKE, Northern	46-2	521/2"	25"	Peter Dubuc	Sacandaga Ros., N. Y.	Sept.	15,	19
PIKE, Walleyed	22.4	36 14"	21"	Patrick E. Noon	Fort Erie, Ontario	May	26,	19
SALMON, Atlantic	79.2			Hanrik Hanrikson	Tanaely, Norway			19
SALMON, Chinook	83			F. R. Steel	Umpqua River, Oregon			15
SALMON Landlocked	22-8	36"		Edward Blakely	Sobago Lake, Maine	Aug.	١,	15
SALMON, Silver	31			Mrs. Lee Hallberg	Cowichan Bay, B. C.	Oct.	11,	16
TROUT, Brook	14-8			Dr. W. J. Cook	Nipigon River, Ostario	July		16
TROUT, Brown	39-8			W. Muir	Lach Awa, Scotland			18
TROUT, Cut-throat	41	39"		John Skimmerhorn	Pyramid Lake, Mev.	Dec.		19
TROUT, Dolly Varden	32	401/2"	29 ¾"	N. L. Higgins	L. Pand Oraille, Ideho	Oct.	27,	16
TROUT, Golden	11	28"	16" .	Chas. S. Reed	Cook's lake, Wyo.	Aug.	5,	16
TROUT, Lake	63	47 1/2"	,	Miss L. L. Hayes	L. Athopopustow, Man.	Aug.	22,	16
TROUT, Rainbow or Stihd.	. 37	401/2"	28"	Wes Hamlet	L. Pend Oreilla, Idaho	Nov.	25,	15
TROUT, Sunapee	10-12	30"	17-13/16"	Chas. A. Cloveland		July	1.	P

Indian maiden was conclusive evidence that the Indian buck had taken it. I tried for some time to get it back, but it was more than a year, and then with the help of a half breed Indian named Ab Murdock, that I finally recovered my good horse. This same Indian was finally shot in the field, near what in now Tabiona."

Aside from what Jessop Thomas has contributed to the livestock industry, he has also endeared himself in the hearts of all who have known him. Besides raising two families of his own (he remarried after his first wife died leaving him a young family to raise), he also gave several other boys and girls the comforts of his home, afforded them with the necessary things of life, and helped them to receive educations.

It is said he has never turned an individual down who was in need, and it is known that he has loaned money to total strangers when they stated their real needs. Because of his kindness and

the helping hand he has always e tended, hundreds of western people to and admire him. No one could speak of this Old Timer.

Mr. Thomas is retired now, but a comforts of his little home in Tabion are open wide to the passer-by as we the latch string on the pioneer cab and the flap of this herder's tent.

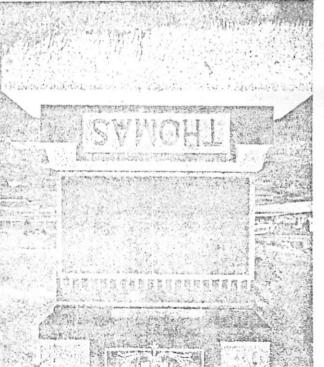
THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW

Some 100,000 tons of fish are take annually from the Great Lake of Car bodia in Indochina, an average of 1 tons per-square mile of lake.

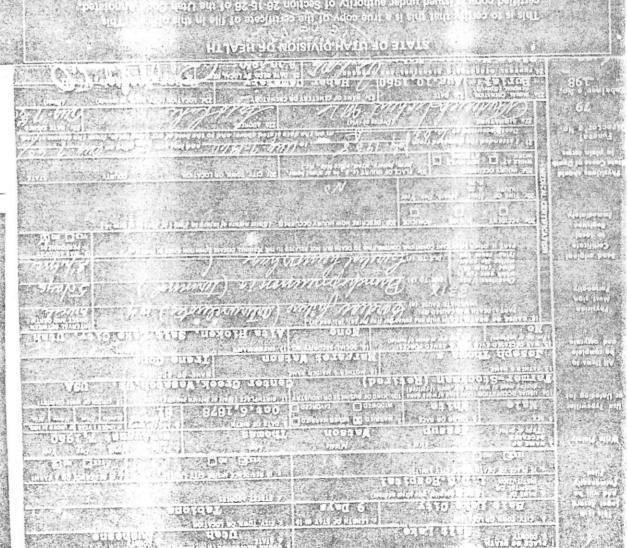
The quu is part donkey, part buffal part horse and part antelope. Appa ently there is nothing new about a qu

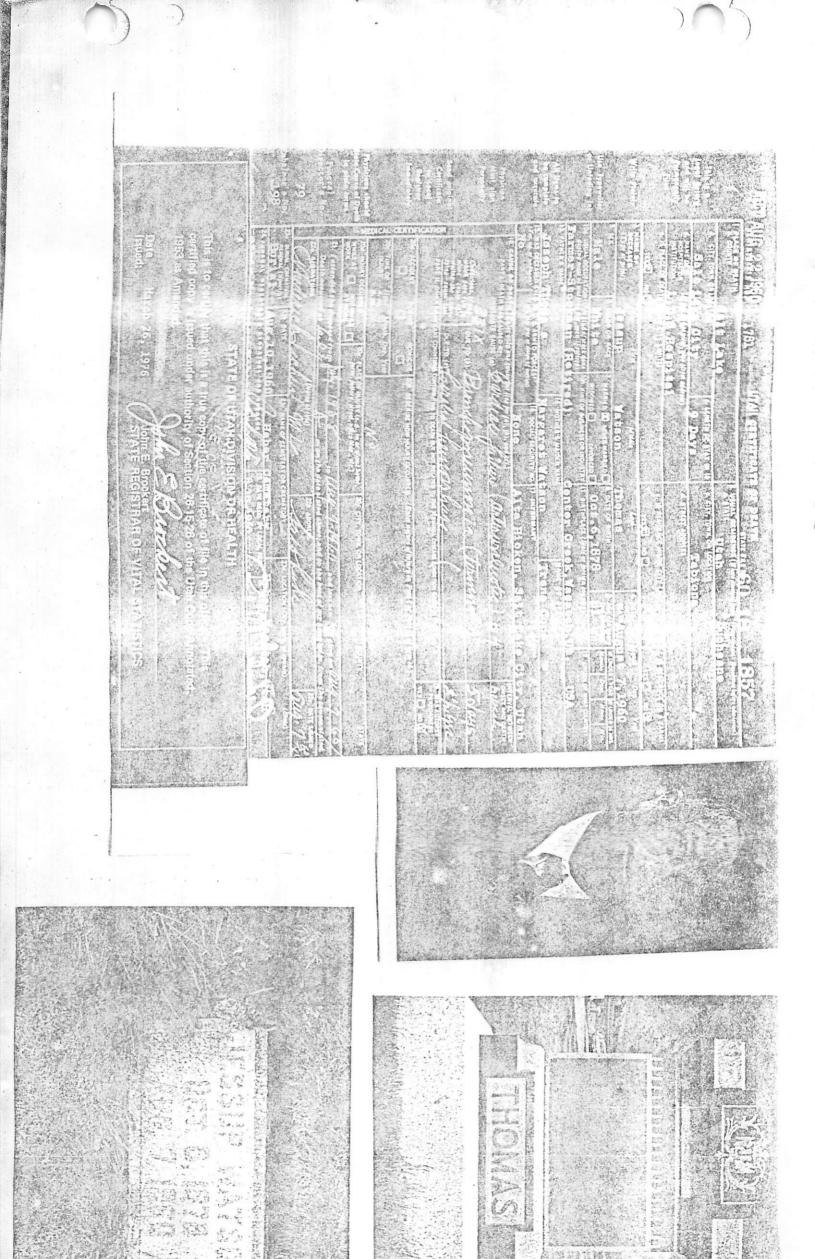
The usual speed of common birds flight is about 25 miles per hour.

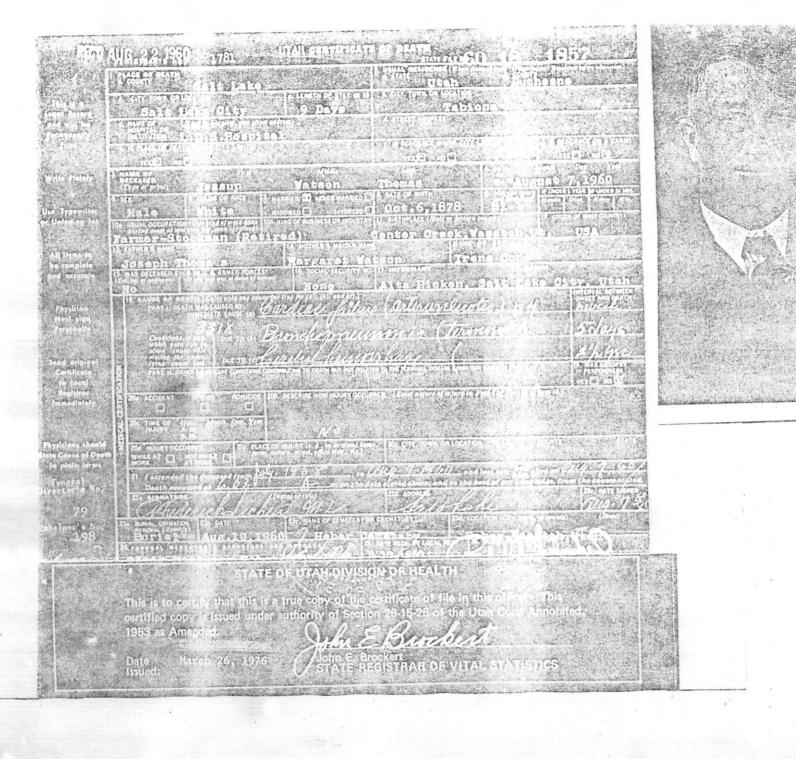


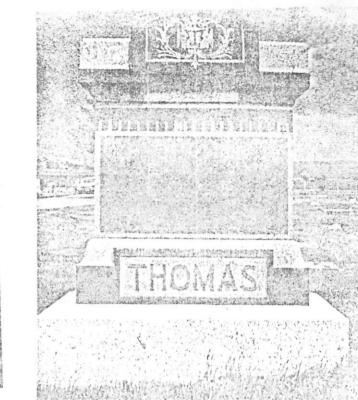














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UTAH

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October 26, 1899, marked the marriage of Mr. Thomas to Miss Eunice Lindsay, and they became the parents of five children, four of whom survive the mother, namely: Jessup, Alta. Ora and Howard. The name of the deceased child was Valda. In 1921 Mr. Thomas was united in marriage to Miss Irene Cope, and the two children of this marriage are Irma and Weston.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Thomas came across the plains to Utah as pioneers and established their home in Salt Lake City. The maternal grandparents, James and Jeanette (Campbell) Watson came direct from Scotland to Utah and were early settlers of the Heber community in Wasatch County. En route to Utah a son was born to them at Jessup, Pennsylvania, and this son was given the name of Jessup, the subject of this sketch having also been given this honored name.

Jessup Watson Thomas was born in Center Creek, on October 6, 1878, a son of Joseph and Margaret Watson Thomas. Joseph Thomas, his father, was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and came to Utah with the Bryant Jolley company arriving September 9. 1852. Jessup's mother, Margaret Watson, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Jessup was left an orphan at the age of seven but, coming from a large family of eleven, there were older brothers and sisters to take care of him.

Young Jessup was only exposed to an education. The long hike to the school located four miles from his home, early spring and late fall work, and the heavy snows of winter took him away from his school work much of the time.

At the age of twelve he was introduced to the work that he was to follow for many years of his life—he began to work with sheep. His first job was with George Coleman which took him into the Toocle area. For two years he helped care for the Coleman herds. The summer and winter ranges were not far apart in those days, the summer range being in the vicinity of Grantsville and the winter range just south in the Dugway

After two years of working for George Coleman, Jessup went to work for John Austin, a brother-in-law, and for the next twelve years stayed with the sheep most of the time.

It was at this time, after he worked for John Austin, that Jessup went into business for himself. He took his pay in sheep and from this beginning he became one of the leading ranchers in the State of Utah.

His sheep were summered in the area of Current Creek in Wasatch County, and the West Fork area on the Duchesne River and were trailed to the wintering grounds near Dugway and the Keg Mountains in western Utah. Wintering was also done in the area

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On October 26, 1899 he married Eunice Lindsay and they became the parents of five children, all whom survived their mother, Eunice who died February 8, 1919. The children of this union are Alta Eliza, who married Dr. N. F. Hicken; Jessup Roland who married Beatrice Spencer; Ora M. who married Otto E. Johnsen: Darrell died at the age of thirteen and Velda who died at the age of 22 months.

In 1921 Jessup married Irene Cope and five children were born to this marriage. They are Ina who married Earl Van Tassell: Weston who married Alice Marie Buckalew: Irene who married Earl Griffiths; Royal Cope, and Linda Lee who married Dale Gines.